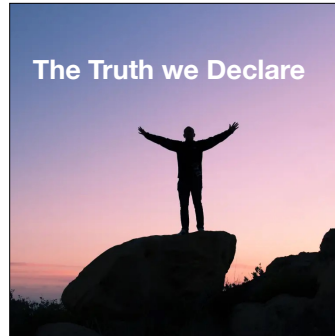


Welcome
Digging Deeper

The Return of Jesus Christ A New Testament Perspective on Israel

1



The Truth we Declare

HE WILL COME AGAIN
Jesus will return to this earth

Time unknown, so be ready

TO JUDGE THE LIVING AND THE DEAD
Resurrection of living and dead

Judgment & Separation

HIS KINGDOM WILL HAVE NO END
Global impact

Final peace

The Return of Jesus Christ A New Testament Perspective on Israel

2



The Millennium
(Revelation 20)

The Man of Lawlessness / Anti-Christ
(2 Thessalonians 2 / 1 John 2)

The Great Tribulation
(Matthew 24:21; Revelation 7:14)

Preaching Gospel to All Nations
(Matthew 24:14)

The Rapture
(1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)

The Role of Israel
(Romans 9-11)

The Signs of the Times
(Mark 13)

The Nature of Hell
(Mark 9:47-49 / 2 Peter 3:7)

The Criteria for Judgment / what of those who have never heard
(Romans 10:9 / Acts 4:12 / Matthew 25:32-7)


Rewards
(Matthew 16:27)

The Return of Jesus Christ A New Testament Perspective on Israel

3


Christian Zionism is a movement within Protestantism that sees the **modern state of Israel as the fulfillment of Biblical prophecy** and thus deserving of political, financial and religious support.

- God's covenant with Israel is eternal, exclusive and will not be abolished.
- There are **two distinct and parallel covenants** in the Bible, one with Israel that is never revoked and the other with the Church.
- The **Church will be removed from history** during the Rapture. At that point, Israel, as a nation, will be restored as the primary instrument of God on earth.
- Christian Zionists claim that **Genesis 12:3 ("I will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you") should be interpreted literally** and lead to political, economic, moral and spiritual support for the state of Israel



The Return of Jesus Christ A New Testament Perspective on Israel

4

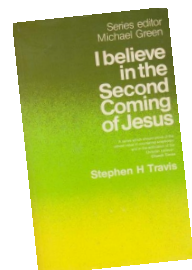


'You better stand with Israel'

"If you want America to be blessed, you better stand with Israel," he told the crowd.
"God blesses those who bless Israel. He curses those who curse Israel."
Ralph Reed, the president of the conservative Faith and Freedom Coalition

The Return of Jesus Christ A New Testament Perspective on Israel

5



Jesus foresaw no political future for Israel. He did not re-apply to future political events those prophecies which spoke of a return and renewal of the Jewish people. Instead he believed that **Israel's destiny would be fulfilled in those who follow him, of whatever race.**

The Return of Jesus Christ A New Testament Perspective on Israel

6

Where does Israel sit in the Bible's big picture?

Who is Israel's God?

How did Jesus fulfil Israel's hopes?

How does the New Testament see Old Testament Israel?

What light does Romans 9-11 shed on Israel?



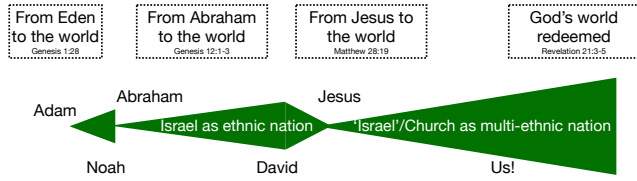
The Return of Jesus Christ A New Testament Perspective on Israel

7

Where does Israel sit in the Bible's big picture?

The Return of Jesus Christ A New Testament Perspective on Israel

8



From Eden to the world: Genesis 1:29

From Abraham to the world: Genesis 12:1-3

From Jesus to the world: Matthew 28:19

God's world redeemed: Revelation 21:3-5

Adam Abraham Jesus

Noah David Us!

Israel as ethnic nation 'Israel'/Church as multi-ethnic nation

The Return of Jesus Christ A New Testament Perspective on Israel

9

Who is Israel's God?

The Return of Jesus Christ A New Testament Perspective on Israel

10



Nearly 70% of Gaza war dead are women and children, UN says

Israeli attack on Gaza school kills at least 17, including children

'Children torn to pieces': Relentless Israeli attacks on war-battered Gaza

Israeli strike on school-turned-shelter in Gaza kills at least 12

The Return of Jesus Christ A New Testament Perspective on Israel

11

9 Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? **Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.** How can you say, "Show us the Father"? 10 Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? Jn 14:9

He is the reflection of God's glory and the **exact imprint of God's very being...**
Hebrews 1:3

He is the **image of the invisible God**, Colossians 1:15

The Return of Jesus Christ A New Testament Perspective on Israel

12

"God is not one thing in himself and another thing in Jesus Christ..."

What God is in eternity, Jesus Christ is in space and time, and what Jesus Christ is in space and time, God is in his eternity... **There is thus no God behind the back of Jesus Christ, but only this God whose face we see in the face of the Lord Jesus. There is no absent God, no dark inscrutable God, no arbitrary Deity of whom we can know nothing but before whom we can only tremble...**



1913-2007
Thomas F. Torrance,
The Christian Doctrine
of God,
(pp. 243-244)

God really is like Jesus, for there is no other God than he who became man in Jesus and he whom God affirms himself to be and always will be in Jesus."

How did Jesus fulfil Israel's hopes?

For no matter how many promises God has made, they are 'Yes' in Christ. (2 Cor 1:20)

| | |
|----------|---|
| Covenant | Genesis 17:13 / Hebrews 8:6-13 'Everlasting' / 'Obsolete' |
| Temple | 2 Chronicles 7:16 / John 2:15-21; Matthew 12:6 'Forever' / 'One Greater is here' |
| Torah | Psalm 119:160 / Galatians 3:24 'Eternal' / 'Until Christ came' |
| Glory | Exodus 19:8 / John 1:14 |
| Sabbath | Exodus 31:16 / Col 2:16 'Perpetual Covenant' / Sabbath now optional |
| Land | Exodus 32:13 / Matthew 5:5 'Inheritance for ever' / 'inherit the earth' |

The Return of Jesus Christ

A New Testament Perspective on Israel

For no matter how many promises God has made, they are 'Yes' in Christ. (2 Cor 1:20)

Psalm 2:7-8 "You are My Son, Today I have begotten You. Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance, And the very ends of the earth as Your possession."

The Return of Jesus Christ

A New Testament Perspective on Israel

And now the Lord says,
he who formed me from the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him;
and that Israel might be gathered to him—
for I am honoured in the eyes of the Lord,
and my God has become my strength—
he says:
"It is too light a thing that you should be my servant
to raise up the tribes of Jacob
and to bring back the preserved of Israel;
I will make you as a light for the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."
Isaiah 45:5,6

For no matter how many promises God has made, they are 'Yes' in Christ. (2 Cor 1:20)

The Return of Jesus Christ

A New Testament Perspective on Israel

But the meek will inherit the land
and enjoy peace and prosperity. Ps 37:11

Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth. Matthew 5:5


For no matter how many promises God has made, they are 'Yes' in Christ. (2 Cor 1:20)

The Return of Jesus Christ

A New Testament Perspective on Israel

For no matter how many promises God has made, they are 'Yes' in Christ. (2 Cor 1:20)

21 "Woman," Jesus replied, **"believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.**
 22 You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. 23 Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. 24 God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth."



The Return of Jesus Christ A New Testament Perspective on Israel

19


For no matter how many promises God has made, they are 'Yes' in Christ. (2 Cor 1:20)

the Parable of the Vineyard

42 Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures:
 "The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvellous in our eyes'[Ps 118:19]?"

43 "Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.

Matthew 21



The Return of Jesus Christ A New Testament Perspective on Israel

20

The Return of Jesus Christ A New Testament Perspective on Israel

21

How does the New Testament view Old Testament Israel?

The Return of Jesus Christ A New Testament Perspective on Israel

22

Law


Temple

Land

Sabbath

Not disbanded but expanded

Not replaced but re-centred



The Israel of God
Galatians 6:16

The Return of Jesus Christ A New Testament Perspective on Israel

23

Ezek 34 - **God's FLOCK** - Luke 12:32

Ezek 34 - **God's SHEPHERD** - John 10:14

Hosea 10:1 - **God's VINE** - John 15:1-5


Jeremiah 31:31 - **God's New Covenant** - Mark 14:24

Deut. 10:15 - **Chosen People** - 1 Peter 2:9

Isaiah 62:12 - **Holy Nation** - 1 Peter 2:9

Isaiah 42:6 - **Light to the Nations** - John 8:12; Matthew 5:14

Daniel 9:16 - **City on a hill** - Matthew 5:14




Not disbanded but expanded

Not replaced but reshaped

The Return of Jesus Christ A New Testament Perspective on Israel

24

Romans 4:13: "For the promise to Abraham or to his descendants that he would **be heir of the world (cosmos)** was not through the Law, but through the righteousness of faith."



Not disbanded but expanded
Not replaced but reshaped

The Return of Jesus Christ A New Testament Perspective on Israel


25

Israel as God's Bride
- Isaiah 52:1; 61:10; 62:1-4

As a young man marries a young woman, so will your Builder marry you; as a bridegroom rejoices over his bride, so will your God rejoice over you. (62:5)

Marriage occurs -
Revelation 21:2, 9

2 I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.



Not disbanded but expanded
Not replaced but reshaped


The Return of Jesus Christ A New Testament Perspective on Israel

26

"Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb."

10 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and showed me the **Holy City, Jerusalem**, coming down out of heaven from God....

12 It had a great, high wall with **twelve gates**, and with twelve angels at the gates. On the gates were written **the names of the twelve tribes of Israel....** 14 The wall of the city had **twelve foundations**, and on them were the names of the **twelve apostles of the Lamb**. Rev 21




Not disbanded but expanded
Not replaced but reshaped

The Return of Jesus Christ A New Testament Perspective on Israel

27

11 I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take your crown. 12 **The one who is victorious I will make a pillar in the temple of my God.** Never again will they leave it. **I will write on them the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem**, which is coming down out of heaven from my God...

Revelation 3 (Church in Philadelphia)



Not disbanded but expanded
Not replaced but reshaped

The Return of Jesus Christ A New Testament Perspective on Israel

28

How do Romans 9-11 clarify Israel?

The Return of Jesus Christ A New Testament Perspective on Israel

29

Romans 9 Israel's Past Election

Israel had everything (4,5)
but
"Not all Israelites truly belong to Israel" (6).
God had always chosen (elected) a 'line of promise'
(Isaac not Ishmael; Jacob not Esau; Jesus-followers not Jesus - deniers)
and now
God calls 'those who were not my people, 'my people', and those who were not beloved, he calls 'beloved' (25).
Those who 'stumble' over Jesus will fall (33)



Romans 9-11

The Return of Jesus Christ A New Testament Perspective on Israel

30

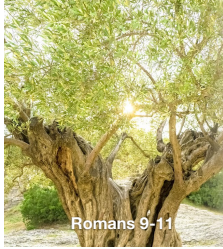
Romans 10 Israel's Present Rejection

By trying to establish their own righteousness through law-keeping, they have missed being made righteous through faith . (1-4)

"There is no distinction now between Jew and Greek,... for everyone *who calls on the name of the Lord* shall be saved. (13)

Israel had been warned that God would be 'found by those who did not seek me'. (20)

Now God sees Israel as a 'disobedient and contrary people', who reject his hand held out in Jesus. (21)



Romans 11 Israel's Future Restoration

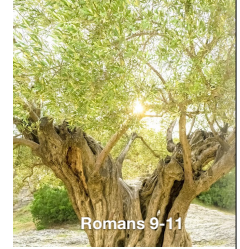
So has God rejected Israel? NO! (1)

There are lots of Jewish followers of Jesus (1)

Israel's rejection of Jesus has opened the doors for Abraham's family to be enlarged (11).

Israel may be currently 'broken off' because of their unbelief (20), but when 'the full number of the Gentiles' has been added, there will be a turn to Jesus by Jewish people (25).

"And so all Israel will be saved" (26)



Romans 11 Israel's Future Restoration

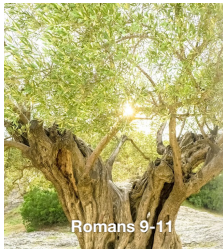
ALL of Jewish descent from all ages?

ALL?

ALL Jews of the 'last generation'

ALL believers: Jewish & Gentile church?

ALL Jewish believers: 'true Israel'?



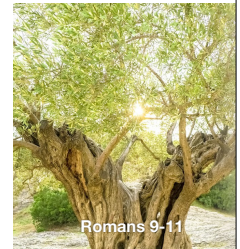
Romans 11 Israel's Future Restoration

And **so** (in this way) all Israel will be saved (11:26)

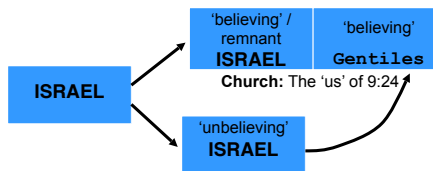
- In what way?

By turning to Christ

(the "deliverer who will come from Zion" - v26)



Romans 11: Israel's Future Restoration



So what about the land?

- Paul (following Jesus) nowhere states or implies that Israel looks forward to a return to the land.

- Old Covenant promises of return are fulfilled in Jesus.

- But there is still an 'earthly' inheritance (a new earth for those who trust the Messiah, Jesus)



So what about Israel?

Seven views inconsistent with the New Testament

that Israel has her own way of salvation.

that Jews should not be evangelised.

the shameful treatment of Jews by Christians

that Israel is the centre of God's plan for the world.

that Israel's religion (Temple, Law etc) will be restored in a future millennial age.

that 'Israel' is no longer of concern to God.

that the current Jewish state is the fulfilment of OT prophecy.



The Return of Jesus Christ

A New Testament Perspective on Israel

37



The History of Christian Zionism,
By Don Wagner
January 2004 Socialist Viewpoint
<https://tinyurl.com/2vachctw>

The Return of Jesus Christ

A New Testament Perspective on Israel

38